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SEP 14 2006

Serial No. : 10/523,337

REMARKS

Claims 11, 16, 19, 20, 26, 27, 28, and 31 are amended. Claims 1-10, 21, 23-25, 29, 30, 32 and 33 are cancelled and claims 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43 are added. Accordingly, claims 11-20, 22, and 26-43 are pending. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in one or more divisional applications.

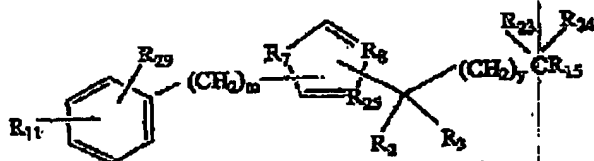
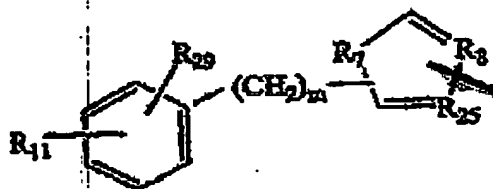
Claims 1, 24, and 25 are amended and rewritten as claims 34-36 to recite compounds that fall within the scope of the elected group and compounds that have closely related structures and similar technical features. Claims 21, 23, 29, 30, 32 and 33 are amended and rewritten as claims 36-43 to correct minor errors in the formulas. The additional amendments are presented to correct minor typographical and grammatical errors. No new subject matter is added. The Examiner is requested to note that the amendment of the claims as presented herein does not surrender any equivalent to which the other substituents may be entitled. Accordingly, Applicant is entitled to a full range of equivalents upon issuance of the instant claims. No new subject matter is added.

Restriction

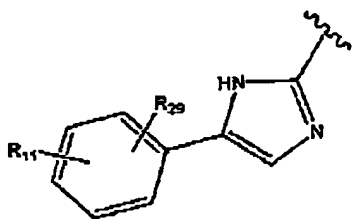
Restriction has been requested from among the XVI Groups of claims set forth in the Office Action (applicants note that there are two of group VIII and group IX). Applicants elect the compounds of group V, with traverse. The group as suggested by the examiner is as follows:

Serial No. : 10/523,337

Group V: Claims 1-23 (in part), drawn to products of the formula

, wherein R₂₃ and R₂₄ are each H; R₁₆is hydroxy; y is 0; R₂ is NH₂; R₃ is H;

is

; R₂₉ is H or halogen; and R₁₁ is C₅-C₁₂alkyl.

The asserted grounds for separating the compounds of the invention into the groups recited in the Office Action mailed on June 14, 2006, are that there is no structural moiety common to the groups and there is no common technical feature. Applicants submit that the inventions of Groups V, VI, VII, VIII, etc., that remain in the amended claims are linked by a common technical feature. As amended the claims only include a single generic structure. These compounds are all believed to have S1P activity. Accordingly, the groups are closely related to each other and form a single general inventive concept. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the groups are linked so as to form a coherent invention and be properly examined together. Finally, applicants submit that a search for the compounds of the elected Group will reveal any documents relevant to the compounds of the remaining groups. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the Requirement for Restriction.

Serial No. : 10/523,337

Summary

Favorable examination and allowance are respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 14, 2006By: 

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